



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

UNFSS for Nutrition: Where are we and what is needed?

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First, let's consider the magnitude of the issue - malnutrition

You have heard these data below:

- 720-811 million people face hunger (2020)
 - 418 million in Asia
 - 282 million in Africa
 - 60 million in Latin America and the Caribbean

FIGURE 2
PoU IN AFRICA BY SUBREGION, WITH PROJECTIONS TO 2030. THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF UNDERNOURISHMENT ARE FOUND IN MIDDLE AND EASTERN AFRICA



NOTES: Projected values in the figure are illustrated by dotted lines and empty circles. The shaded area represents projections for the longer period from 2019 to the 2030 target year.

* See Box 2 for a description of the projection method. ** Projections to 2030 do not consider the potential impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

SOURCE: FAO

Progress has been made on several forms of malnutrition – but careful on the details!

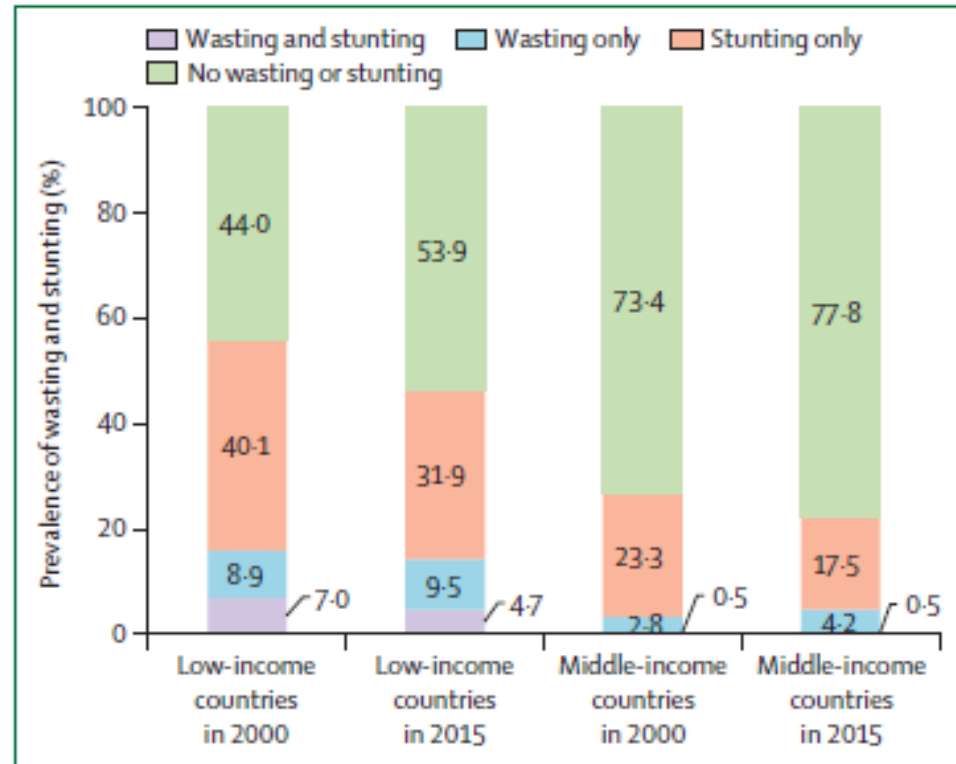


Figure 1: Prevalence of wasting and stunting in children younger than 5 years

Data are for 31 low-income countries and 19 middle-income countries, taken from Demographic and Health Surveys and Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (appendix pp 1–5). We refer to data collected from 1996 to 2005 as 2000 data, and data collected from 2010 to 2018 as 2015 data.

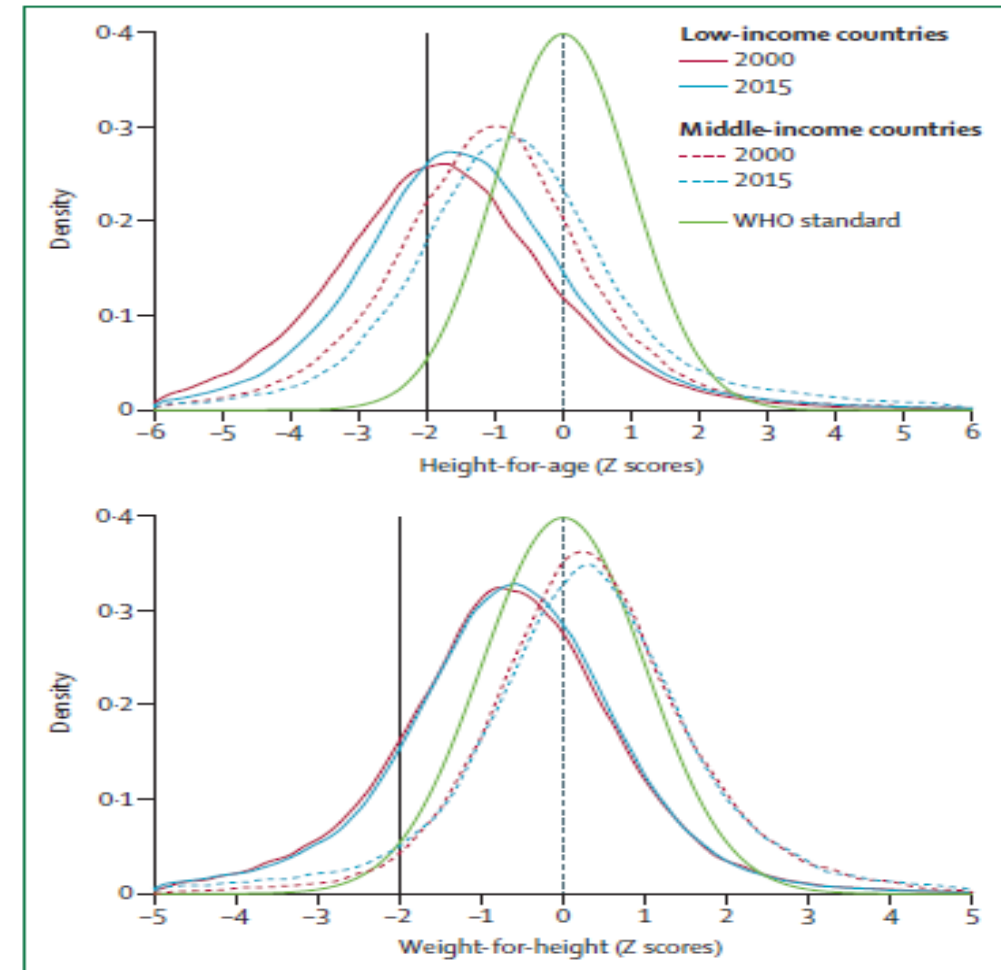


Figure 2: Height-for-age and weight-for-height distributions of children younger than 5 years, from 2000 and 2015

A large number of low- and low-middle income countries now face a *double burden of malnutrition*

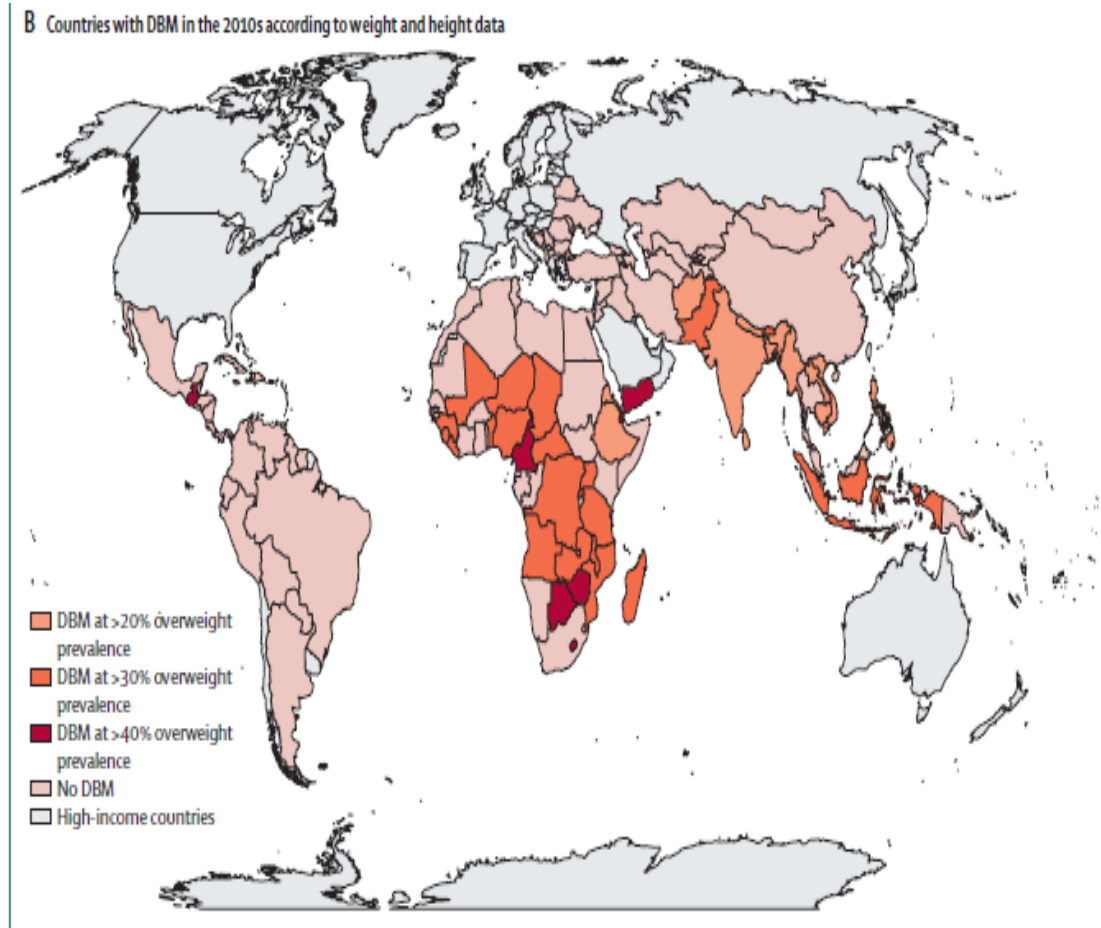


Figure 1: The global DBM in low-income and middle-income countries based on weight and height data from the 1990s (A) and 2010s (B)

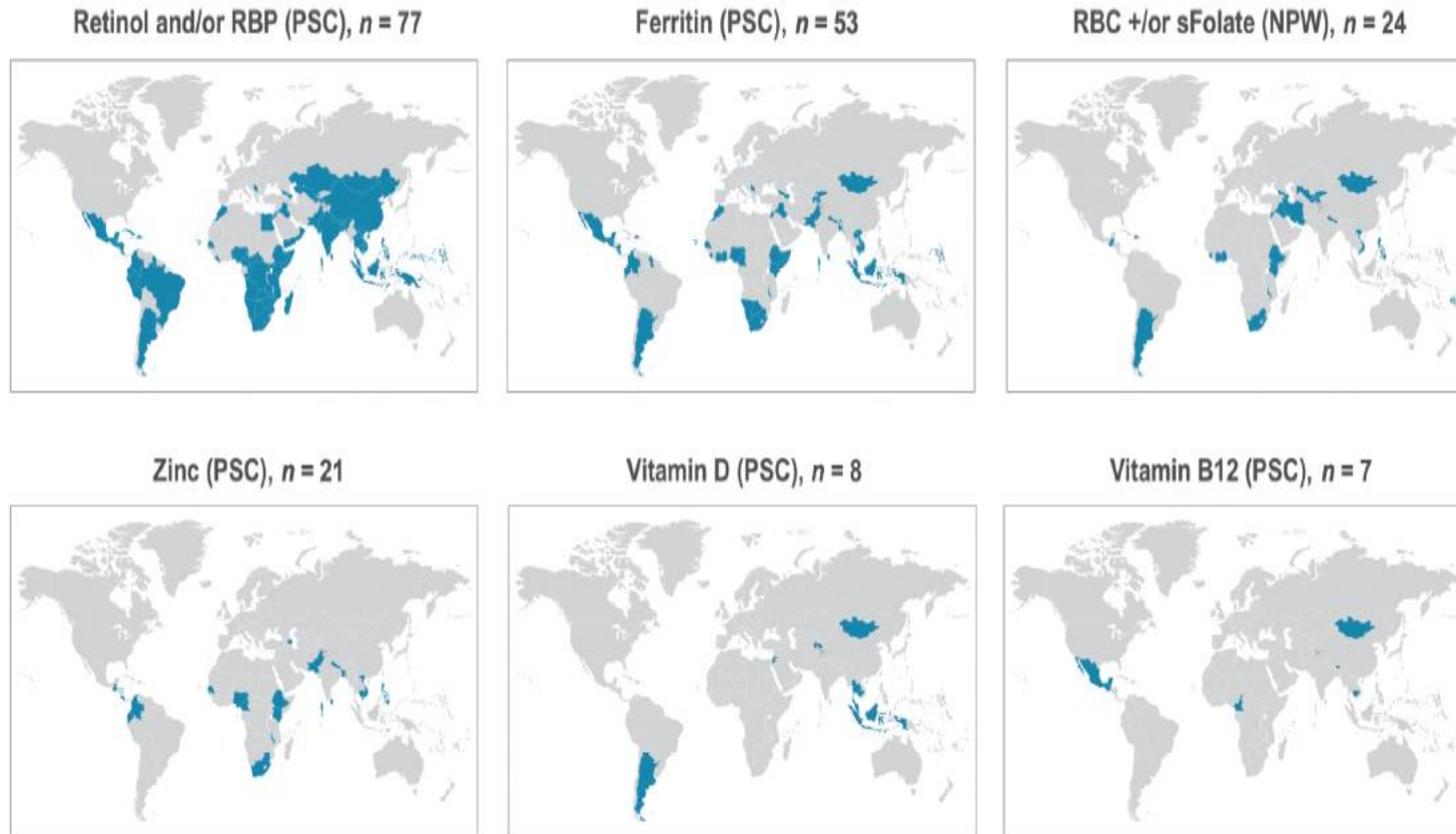
- Perpetuates inequalities
- Puts enormous strain on health systems
- Policy and programmatic trade-offs to simultaneously address both complex

These issues are only the tip of the malnutrition iceberg

1.6 billion women and pre-school aged children are deficient
in one or more vitamins and minerals

This affects most countries, including high-income

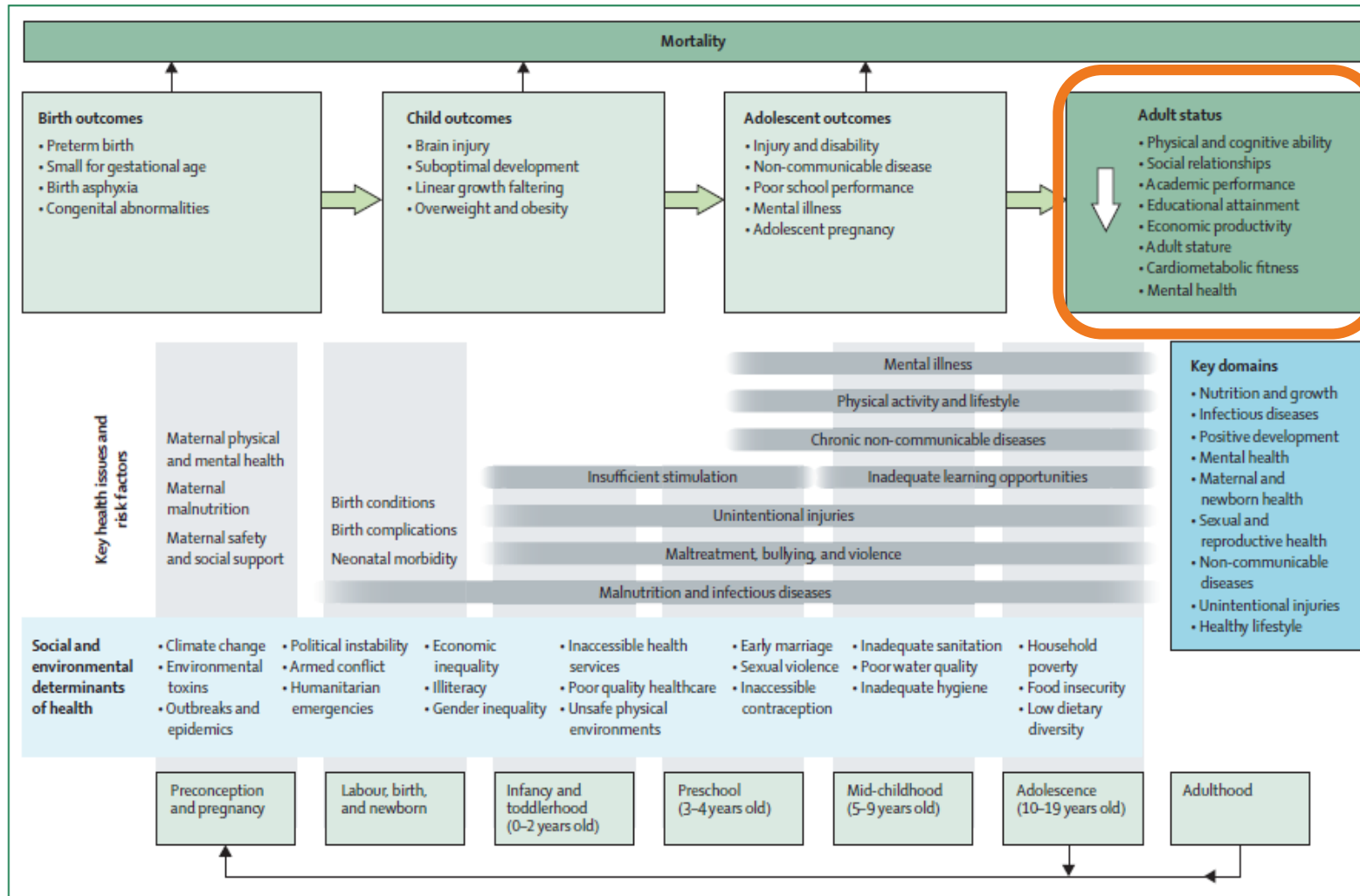
But data on micronutrient status are extremely scarce; true burden remains unknown



- Limited numbers of nutrients in all groups
- Data where exist mostly women of reproductive age and pre-school aged children
- Only a hand-full of countries have data for school-aged children, adolescents, adult men, older women and men
- Same issue for data on dietary intake for all population groups

FIGURE 1 Number of low- and middle-income countries with specified data on MN status of selected population subgroups since 1980, according to the WHO's Vitamin and Mineral Nutrition Information System. Data are from the WHO (51), downloaded from the WHO website on 28 February 2020. Data from high-income countries were not included in tallies. Abbreviations: MN, micronutrient; NPW, nonpregnant women of reproductive age; PSC, preschool-age children; RBP, retinol-binding protein.

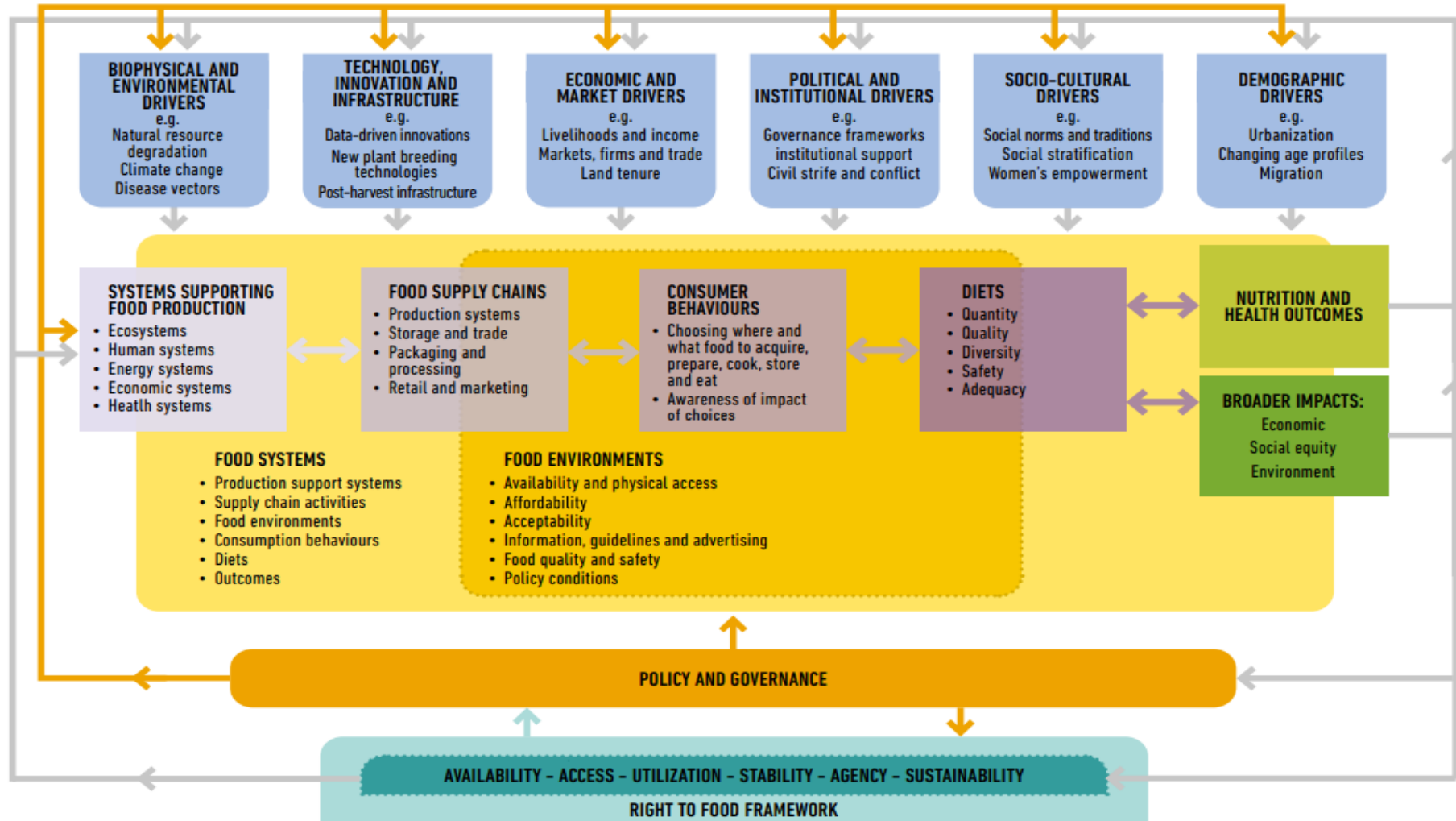
Malnutrition undermines development – from individuals to nations



Human survival, health, growth, development, and well-being – like any system – have many drivers and determinants

Good nutrition is necessary condition for all

Diets are the common cause of all forms of malnutrition



Factors across the food system have the potential foster (or impede) healthy diets for all

Moving beyond energy... nutrient density of foods is highly variable

Ensuring a diversity of nutrient rich food is **available, affordable, acceptable, safe, desirable and consumed** has implications:

- At global and regional levels for:
 - Trade agreements and levies
- At national level for:
 - Agricultural and food related policies and fiscal levers (incentives, subsidies, taxes)
 - Food based dietary guidelines
- At subnational level for:
 - Markets, infrastructure etc.
- At household level for:
 - Budget allocation etc.
- At individual level for:
 - Understanding influences on food choice

	Overall density	Iron	Zinc	Vitamin A	Calcium	Folate	Vitamin B ₁₂
Liver	Very high	Very high	Very high	Very high	Low	Very high	Very high
Spleen	Very high	Very high	Very high	Low	Low	Low	Very high
Small dried fish	Very high	Very high	Very high	Very high	Very high	Low	Very high
Dark leafy greens	Very high	High	Low	Very high	Very high	Very high	Low
Bivalves	Very high	Very high	Very high	Very high	Very high	Moderate	Very high
Kidney	Very high	Very high	Very high	High	Low	High	Very high
Heart	Very high	Very high	Very high	Low	Low	Moderate	Very high
Crustaceans	Very high	Moderate	Very high	Low	Moderate	Low	Very high
Goat	Very high	Very high	Very high	Low	Low	Low	Very high
Beef	Very high	High	Very high	Low	Low	Low	Very high
Eggs	Very high	Moderate	Very high	Very high	Low	Very high	Very high
Cow milk	Very high	Low	High	Very high	Very high	Low	Very high
Canned fish w/ bones	Very high	Moderate	Very high	Low	Very high	Low	Very high
Lamb/mutton	Very high	High	Very high	Low	Low	Low	Very high
Cheese	Very high	Low	Very high	Very high	Very high	Low	Very high
Goat milk	High	Low	Moderate	High	Very high	Low	Low
Pork	High	Low	Very high	Low	Low	Low	Very high
Yoghurt	Moderate	Low	Low	Low	Very high	Low	Very high
Fresh fish	Moderate	Low	Moderate	Low	Low	Low	Very high
Pulses	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Low	Low	Very high	Low
Teff	Moderate	Very high	Moderate	Low	Low	High	Low
Vit A-rich fruit/veg	Low	Low	Low	Very high	Low	High	Low
Other vegetables	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Quinoa	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Low	Low	Very high	Low
Canned fish w/o bones	Low	Low	Moderate	Low	Low	Low	Very high
Seeds	Low	Low	High	Low	High	High	Low
Fonio	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Low	Low	Moderate	Low
Chicken	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	High
Other fruits	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	High	Low
Millet	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Low	Low	Moderate	Low
Unrefined grain prod	Low	Low	Moderate	Low	Low	Moderate	Low
Sorghum	Low	Moderate	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Roots/tubers/plantains	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Whole grains	Low	Low	Moderate	Low	Low	Low	Low
Nuts	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Refined grain products	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Refined grains	Low	Low	Moderate	Low	Low	Low	Low

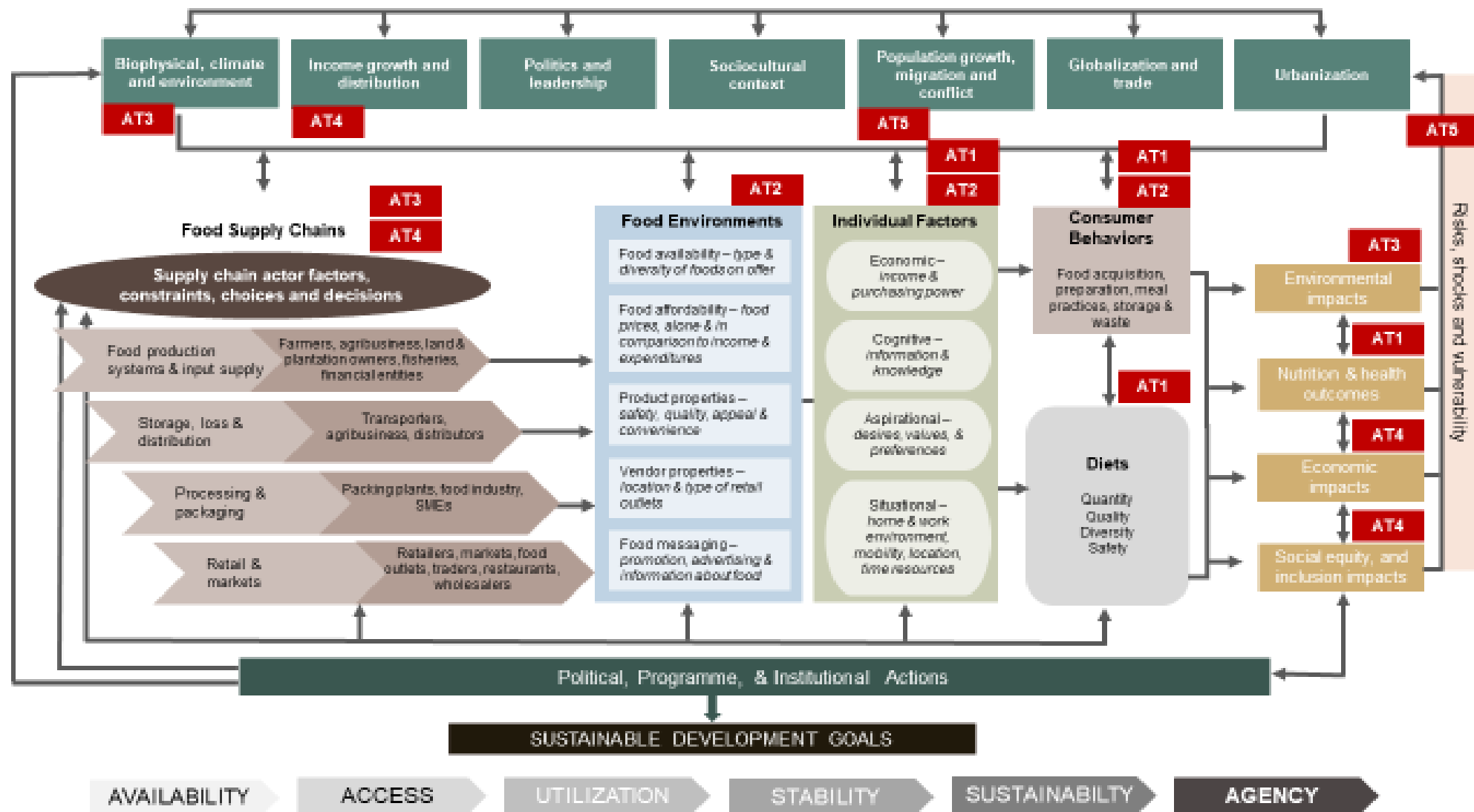
This complexity was well recognized in the run –up to the Food Systems Summit



Resulted in

- Articulation of action areas “solutions”
- Consolidation of evidence (Science Group)
- Commitment making
- Coalitions to support countries and stakeholders to take actions forward and deliver on commitments

Coming back to a (slightly modified) food systems framework



A number of coalitions – in varying stages of development

School Meals Coalition: Nutrition, Health and Education for Every Child

Improve the quality and expand the scale of school meals programmes globally as a platform to reach communities, simultaneously transforming food, education, social protection and health systems.

A Coalition of Action for Achieving Zero Hunger

The coalition aims to achieve ending hunger, in a sustainable and nutritious way. While doing this, it will generate co-benefits: meeting the Paris climate emission targets and doubling the income of 545 million food producers.

Coalition on Family Farming and on strengthening actions in support of the United Nations Decade of Family Farming (CFF)

The CFF promotes a renewed effort towards the development and effective implementation of policies, strategies, programmes and investment aimed at overcoming the structural barriers faced by family farmers and that hamper the full display of their transformative potential.

Coalition on Food is Never Waste

- To halve food waste by 2030 and to reduce food losses by at least 25%.
- To create more sustainable and resilient food systems that seek to ensure food loss and waste are minimized.
- To build and strengthen collaboration throughout food systems, between member states and organisations to ensure learning and sharing of best practice.
- To promote investment in food loss and waste reduction.

Social Protection for Food Systems Transformation Consortium

The institutions, governments and partners to this consortium will endeavour to support countries to (1) forge and enhance the linkages and synergies between national social protection and food systems, and (2) capitalise on the advances made in social protection during the COVID-19 response to guide and inform recovery and efforts to 'build forward better'.

The Coalition of Action for Healthy Diets from Sustainable Food Systems for Children & All

The shared vision of the coalition is a world where all people are eating healthy diets from sustainable food systems. The aim is that healthy diets are available, affordable, and accessible to all, especially the most vulnerable to malnutrition and those living in vulnerable circumstances.

28 coalitions (and counting) 9 “nourish all people”

- Convening and facilitating
- Country support
- Consolidate evidence

The True Value of Food Initiative

Our food needs to become healthier, more sustainable and accessible for all. But there will be no 'trigger' for change as long as healthy and sustainable food is unaffordable to billions, unsustainable food is cheap and profitable, and the impact of food on people and planet is hidden.

Vision and Goal



Shared Vision:

A world where all people are eating healthy diets from sustainable food systems

Increase the diversity of people's diets to include a wider variety of safe, nutritious foods; in appropriate amounts for nutrition and health; as appropriate for local cultures and contexts

Increase consumption of foods **that are produced sustainably** to **support climate, soil, water and biodiversity**

Limit consumption of foods and drinks high in unhealthy fats, sugars and/or salt, including highly processed foods & curb excess consumption among **high-consuming** groups

GOAL:

Double the number of people eating healthy diets from sustainable food systems (measured by affordability)

The Coalition will align, mobilize, and support coherent action in three main areas

Supplying food

focus on nutritional value,
ensuring decent livelihoods,
protecting and restoring the
environment

Food environments

enhance to increase access
and affordability of nutritious
foods from sustainable food
systems

Valuing food

motivating individuals, families, and
communities to eat healthy diets from
sustainable food systems



Join us tomorrow for the launch of the Healthy Diets Coalition

Official Launch of the **Coalition of Action on Healthy Diets from Sustainable Food Systems for Children and All**

Friday 13th May 2020
14:00–15:00 CEST

Join the Coalition to transform food systems for better
nutrition, health and environmental sustainability for all!



Where: Virtual event on Zoom - Registration link: fao.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_9EPxqoYuSfmNCmjTJLPTJw
or follow the webcast @ www.fao.org/webcast/home/en/item/5840/icode/

Provisional Agenda: Click [here](#)

Interpretation will be provided in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.